

# Contributions to the Knowledge of the Coleoptera-Fauna of the Canaries<sup>1).</sup>

Gran Canaria.

By

Dr. D. L. UYTENBOOGAART.

As the results of my excursions and those of my wife in Teneriffe and Gran Canaria in 1925 pointed to the fact that Gran Canaria had been only poorly investigated, we planned a second trip to that island and sailed from Amsterdam on September 14<sup>th</sup> 1927. For a period of six weeks we collected beetles and some other insects in the part of the island situated northeastward of a line drawn from Gando bay on the east-coast to Montaña Galdar on the north-coast. It is my object to publish from time to time the results of our collecting business, expecting to be able to enlarge the number of species known from that island by at least 20 species, between which there are some entirely new to science.

Below is given the description of a beautiful new Asaphidion.

## ASAPHIDION GOZIS (TACHYPSUS LAP.).

*Delatorrei* nova species.

Prothoracis anguli posteriores cum puncto setaferente et cum carina subtile. Caput cum oculis latior prothorace.

Palpae omnis flavae.

In summo fusco-aeneus, elytris cum multis maculis elatis aereo-viridibus.

Antennis, palpis, pedibus flavis. Parte extrema antennarum, basibus tibiarum, tarsis subfuscis.

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<sup>1)</sup> Vide Tijdschr. v. Ent. Deel LXVIII, pag. LXXV—LXXXIII et Deel LXXX, pag. 39—42.

Infra aeneo-niger, coxis nigribus, coxarumque appendicibus anteriorum et intermediorum flavis, posteriorumque subfuscis. Labro superiore coriaceo, margine anteriore punctis setaferentibus duobus magnis ornato, quattuor minoribus. Clypeo et fronte cum striis et punctis inaequalibus. Clypeo cum punctis umbilicatis setaferentibus duobus. Fronto introrsum oculorum utrobique cum punctis umbilicatis setaferentibus uno maiore et uno minore.

Vertice graviter coriaceo cum linea subtile transversale suaviter deflexa parvo intervallo de margine anterioris prothoracis. Fronto et clypeo subtiliter pilosis. Pili albi, fere erecti in parte anteriore longiores densioresque quam retro. Vertice calvo.

Prothorace graviter rugositerque punctulato cum stria longitudinale angusta insignis altitudinis, margine obliquo in parte latissimo cum magno puncto umbilicato, setam crassam oblique proferrentem ferente. Ceterum parum densiter piloso, pilis albis brevibus retro inflexis.

Elythrorum foveis peculiariter profundis perspicisque, quoque unam setam ferente. Elythrorum partes posteriores cum una seta et cum una seta parvo intervallo anteriore. Eis setis retro-directis. Elytris secundum marginem et in parvo intervallo cum multis pilis pluribusque rigidis setis erectis in postiore retro, in anteriore oblique directis. Elytris ceterum parum densiter pilosis; pilis albis brevibus retro-inflexis, peculiariter in maculis viridibus elatis.

Elytris subtiliter et sparsiter punctulatis, inaequaliter et profunditer imprimatis, sed regione impressionum praecipue longitudinale.

Scutello fere leve cum linea perspicua transversale. Epipleuribus flavo aeneis cum una linea punctorum setaferentium in toto longitudine. Ceterum levibus splendidisque praeterea cum quibus sparsis punctis subtilibus supra partem latiorem anteriorem.

Infra aeneo-niger, splendidissimus, subtilissimo-coriaceus, impunctulatus, striis subtilissimis inaequalibus.

Femoribus posterioribus cum setis magnis duabus, intermediis, anterioribusque cum variis setis inaequaliter locatis.

Species generis minima mihi cognita; a ceteris speciebus

confestim distinguenda per sculpturam elythrorum manifeste crassiores quasi generis *Elaphri* similem, foveis perspicuiter profundioribus sicut stria longitudinalis prothoracis.

Quod pertinet ad sculpturam *A. flavigerne* SOLS. proximiter agnata sed perspicuiter minor, discriminé inter elythrorum partes elevatos et depresso maiore, fronte inter oculos apud flavigernem latiore et graviter rugositerque punctulato non striato ut apud *Delatorreum*. *Delatorreum* prothorax multo gravioriter rugosus quam flavigerni. Ceterum *Delatorrei* satis lator quam species agnatae.

Longitudo  $3\frac{1}{3}$  mM. 11 ♂♂; 6 ♀♀; amplificatio  $\times$  60.

Habitat insulanu Gran Canaria. Barranco d'Azuaje. Oct. 1927.

Types in my collection and in the collection of Mr. B. H. KLYNSTRA, The Hague.

I have much pleasure in dedicating this fine species to my friend Don BERNARDO DE LA TORRE at Las Palmas, who so amicably facilitated our trips and excursions in 1925 and 1927, and by his influence opened to us parts of the island where free circulation is strictly prohibited.

We also renewed our acquaintance with *Dactylotrypes Uyttenboogaarti* EGGERS, studying its mode of life in its natural habitat. We observed that contrary to my previous supposition, that beetle not infests the dates of *Phoenix canariensis* as long as they are fixed to the palm. They prefer the kernels from which the fruitflesh has rotten away, but in case of need they also bore holes through the skin and the flesh of dates that have fallen to the ground and have been dried up by the sun. The eggs are deposited by boring holes in the kernels exactly in the deep and narrow longitudinal hollow line, which contrary to my former observation (based on the deteriorated and decaying kernels left by the first generation in 1925<sup>1</sup>) exists on the stones of *Phoenix canariensis* as well as on those of *dactylifera*. Only on the former the line is so narrow, that the holes escape attention unless very carefully investigated. Therefore there is nothing specially wonderful in the instincts of *Dactylotrypes*.

(To be continued).

<sup>1</sup>) Vide Tijdschr. v. Ent. Deel LXX, pag. 41.